

Wellington earthquakes

This task involves reading an article and answering questions about earthquakes.

Read the article about earthquakes.

Gentle quake the latest in swarm

The latest in a swarm of earthquakes gave Wellingtonians a gentle shake after lunch yesterday. The earthquake, measuring 4.2 on the Richter scale, was centred near The Brothers islands 30 km northwest of Wellington at 1.53 p.m., and was felt mainly in the greater Wellington region.

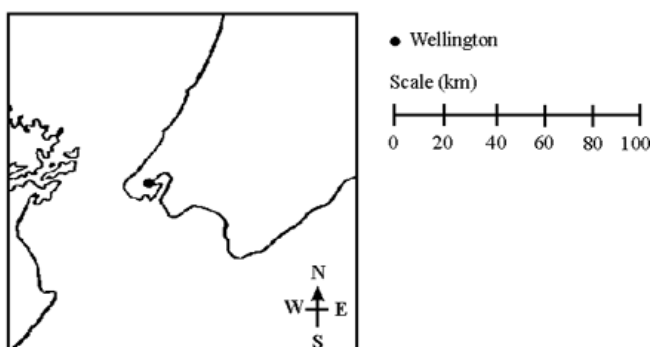
An Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences technical officer said the latest quake was part of the swarm first noticed by the public last week. He said there had been no reports of damage and no reports of the earthquake being felt further afield than Wellington.

Reproduced by courtesy of The Evening Post, Wellington.

a) Explain what is meant by a 'swarm' of earthquakes.

b) The Richter scale reading for the Wellington earthquake was 4.2.
What aspect of the earthquake does the Richter scale measure?

c) On the map below, place an 'X' to mark the location of the **epicentre** of the earthquake reported in the newspaper article.



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